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*Admitted only in Maryland * Admitted only in Virginia Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

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Art Unit 1648

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 09/809,060; Filed: March 16, 2001

A Method for Generating Immunogens that Elicit Neutralizing **Antibodies Against Fusion-Active Regions of HIV Envelope Proteins**

Inventors: WILD et al.

Our Ref: 1900.0260001/JMC/SJE

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Reply to Restriction Requirement and Election of Species; and
- 2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Simon J. Elliott

Agent for Applicants Registration No. 54,083

JMC/SJE/lam Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

WILD et al.

Appl. No.: 09/809,060

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: A Method for Generating Immunogens that Elicit

Neutralizing Antibodies Against Fusion-Active Regions of HIV

Envelope Proteins

Confirmation No.: 4671

Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Zacharias LUCAS

Atty. Docket: 1900.0260001/JMC/SJE

Reply to Restriction Requirement and Election of Species

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Restriction Requirement dated August 10, 2005, Applicants elect for further prosecution Group I, represented by claims 1-8. Applicants also elect for search and examination the species represented by SEQ ID NO: 1. Upon the identification of allowable subject matter in a generic or linking claim, Applicants request the rejoinder and examination of the remaining unelected species.

Applicants election of restriction Group I is made with traverse. Even if the claims of Group I may be characterized as belonging to an invention distinguishable from those of Groups II-V, examination of the claims of Group I with the remaining claims would not constitute an undue burden on the Examiner. Rejoinder is respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional

extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Simon J. Elliott, Ph.D. Agent for Applicants Registration No. 54,083

Date: September 12, 2005

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